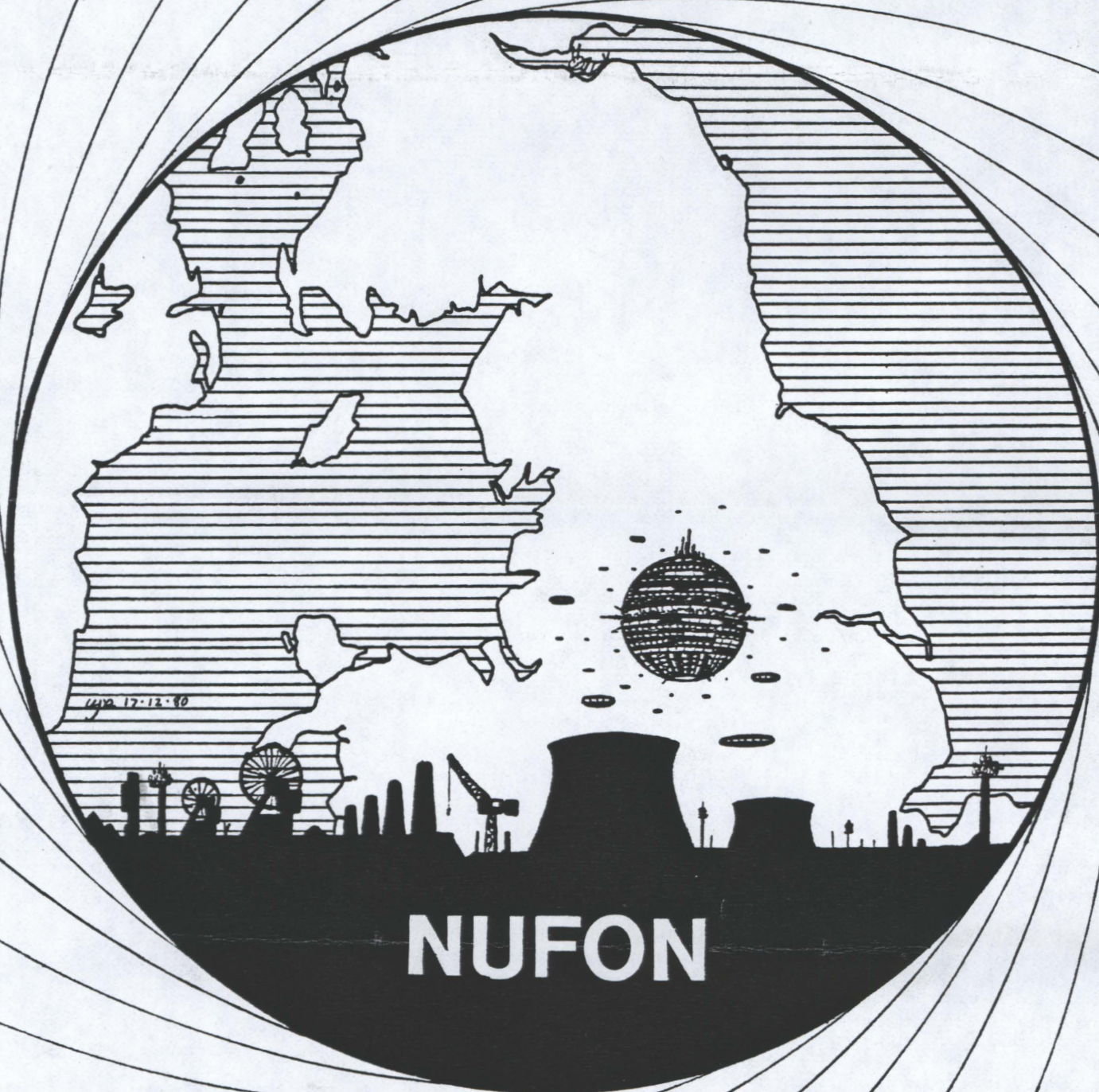


NORTHERN UFO NEWS



NUFON

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MARCH 1981

"Nufon is seven years old this month"

ISSUE 82

EDITORIAL: "The 1980 UFO Awards"

Bob Morrell of NUFOIS has just produced the second, and most valuable, edition of the UFO ABSTRACTS (25p from 443 Meadow Lane, Nottingham, NG2 3GB) Abstracting articles from many 1980 UK UFO magazines.

Whilst applauding this work I have reservations about his repeated attacks on NUFON. He says NUFOIS is "regretfully" still associated with us, and also claims we are on the brink of disintegration because of the 'disease of paranormalism' sweeping through our midst. As evidence he harks back to the JUNE 1980 NORTHERN UFOLOGY (which posed the question "UFOs & Psychic Phenomena - Is there a link?") and the October conference in Birmingham, which he slates with a host of derogatory comment despite admitting he "boycotted" it on principle and despite most creditable reviews of it in MAGONIA and SKYWATCH (two magazines he later praises highly).

Now I do not object to any person having private opinions, but to openly claim that the NUFON conference was totally unscientific (what UFO conference ever has been?) is unjust and, might I say, extremely "unscientific" since it is based not only on no definable evidence but not even on first-hand experience. I would never dream of knocking a NUFOIS event I did not go to, based on what I thought it might be like before it happened!! There must be a point where honest, sceptical criticism (which Bob has in abundance, and which is not only healthy, but productive of a restraining hold on those ufologists who might otherwise seek to run away with their imaginations) becomes a kind of witch-hunt. A biggoted attempt to deny all respectability for something with which one disagrees. I fear that Bob is fast approaching this sad extreme.

Suffice it to say that I can see no signs that NUFON is disintegrating. As long as groups continue to believe in cooperation and a working community then NUFON will exist in some fashion. Happily NUFOIS, whose other members seem less concerned about the imminent cataclysm Bob foresees, remain a vital part of our system. And there is no intention (for my part at least) of letting paranormalism become dominant. The themes for NORTHERN UFOLOGY will continue to be balanced carefully. This also applies to future conferences. Anyone is free to disagree and disassociate with any one, but free speech must be allowed. And that means free speech for all. One must never reach the point of wanting it all one's way and threatening resignation if something happens one doesn't like (Surely scientists do not agree with everything published in NEW SCIENTIST but do not behave in this curious way?)

It seems to me that success does not come from splits but sensible coalition.

Bob adds an interesting rider with his "awards" for services to British Ufology in 1980 (a kind of UFO Oscars). In the main I would not quibble with his choices. Best Book...Hendy's UFO HANDBOOK; Best Critic...Ian Ridpath; Most promising organisation...BUFORA (Their advance towards greater respectability in 1980 was most welcome and a very hopeful sign for the future) & Best Magazine...SKYWATCH (Mapit's journal has certainly progressed from being a literary chat-show in 1980 and has produced some useful articles). He gives the Best Research title to Stuart Campbell for his work on plasmas and ball lightning. Despite Stuart's decided tendency to go overboard his work is no doubt of some value and it was, after all, virtually the only research done in 1980!

For Best Investigation he cites an excellent NUFOIS case study, but I think I would have to give the title to a tremendous UFOIN report from John Morris of MIGAP. This beautifully laid out and intensely comprehensive study of a Liverpool MED DEFINITION case is, in my view, the best piece of UFO Reporting I have ever seen. And Allen Hynek agrees with me. He sees it as evidence of how, whilst US investigators are technically superior (eg with computer enhancement techniques) UK work is more thorough and detailed at grass roots level. An excellent bolster for UFOIN's aims.

It would be interesting to have your nominations for "Best of" categories for 1980, and perhaps we will make it an annual venture. I will publish what you send, but am quite opposed to the presentation of any more than a hearty congratulations. Ufology does not need any more controversy or self-aggrandisement!

READERS ARE REMINDED OF THE THEME FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF NORTHERN UFOLOGY viz: WINDOW AREAS & UFOCALS... What are they?? Contributions in by March 31 please.

NEWS ROUND-UP :: Jenny Randles has a request for all investigators. For her latest book (currently being researched) she wants to know which case, you have studied, most convinces you of the reality of an unexplained phenomenon, and why?? It is realised that conviction does not come from one case, and your choice will not be used to make you look gullible in print. It is to examine the various degrees and questions of evidence vs proof. Your help in this matter is appreciated.

:: Graham Birdsall, UFOIN/CONTACT investigator, recently did a Radio Leeds programme with Sqdrn Leaders Ian Davies of RAF Fylingdales, and gives some useful facts which emerged. It seems since the first satellite launch they have detected some 12,300 pieces of space hardware. At present there are 1,100 satellites 3,300 pieces of debris (both in orbit) and 110 other probes and debris not in orbit. In one week in October 1978 they recorded 4,575 satellites and space debris! That ought to make you think hard about the possibility of these sources of ID.

:: NUFON has been cooperating with TYNE TEES TV supplying data for a new children's UFO programme in a series called MADABOUT. It will be hosted by famous entertainer (and amateur ufologist) Michael Bentine. Local people should watch press for details. The research team told Jenny Randles they had found UFOs so fascinating they were now considering a children's series just about them!

:: Coming up soon in NUN is a MUFORA investigation into a 1980 CEL with time-lapse and effects witnessed by a policeman. (Regression hypnosis is being conducted at present). The case has an amazing anecdote, which will be described in full but which involves a severely mutilated dead body under highly suspicious circumstances. The witness/victim's name is the least peculiar feature of the case and that name is Adamski!!!

:: The Next NUFON meeting will be associated with a one-day seminar on PHYSICAL EVIDENCE. A date has been set by the organising group (MUFORA). This is Saturday JUNE 6... so keep that free. The venue will be central Manchester. More details will be announced in the next issue.

:: More information is to hand on the BUFORA UFO Congress. Starting at 09.30 on Sunday May 24 and ending on Monday evening speakers so far announced include Bertil Kuhlemann of Sweden, David Haisell of Canada, Dr Bruce MacCabee of the USA and Charles Bowen of the UK (plus UFOIN's psychic advisor Hilary Evans on the emotive UFO-Psychic link up and Nigel Henblest FRAS on Black Holes) So there is something of a varied mixture and a wide selection of group sessions (eg ETH, Radar/Visual cases, Vehicle Interference & Investigation) which people are asked to participate in. Cost is £15 (£13 for BUFORA Members), but there is a £47 residential cost too (includes two nights b & b) or a special package to include rail fare from all parts of the UK (eg this is £68.59 from Cumbria or £55.12 from Leicestershire)... Enquiries to: BUFORA CONGRESS....

7 Stratford Place LONDON W1A 4YU Tel: 01-629-6618 ext 259.

The venue is the MOUNT ROYAL HOTEL, Marble Arch, London.

ELSEWHERE THIS MONTH UFOIN Publish the second issue of their irregular Magazine INVESTIGATION. By investigators, for investigators, it has pieces on technique, methodology and three unpublished CE3 investigations from the UK; (Contributions from Andy Collins, John Morris, Martin Keatman, Jenny Randles, Nigel Watson, Ron Saregeant, Paul Wilson & Janet & Colin Bord) (50p from 31 Stuart Close North, Walton, Stone, Staffs ST15 0JU... cheques/p.o. to MARTIN KEATMAN, editor) It is excellent value for money.... BUFORA JOURNAL (Feb), an excellent photographic case from New Zealand and an extensive report on the COSMOS 1068 re-entry which Bernard Delair concludes was not a re-entry (although his remarks about the NUFON data published in this magazine is rather misleading and in some cases simply untrue! See NUN issues 57, 59 & 63) CONTACT UK's AWARENESS (Autumn 1980) has a most fascinating piece which speculates that HG Wells was a time-lapse abductee based on his fictional writings... I vouchsafe MAGONIA will have some contrary views on that hypothesis!... NUFOIS publish a 20pp detailed case study of their Derbyshire multi-witness case, referenced last NUN. Good value at 25p from the group.... Lincolnshire Dragon (Feb, 50p) has more on the UFO-Psychic debate from Jenny Randles and Nigel Watson, plus earth mysteries... MAGIC SAUCER (Jan/Feb) has more childrens stories, letters and sightings... a real delight as usual... PROBE (March) an excellent southern group mag (60p from 16 Marigold Walk, Bristol BS3 2PD) with a wide range of articles and reports and some first-class reviews. Recommended.... EARTHLINK (Spring 80) Each issue gets weirder. This one couples serious research and fascinating but "way-out" contact cases with stuff about reincarnation, the Bermuda Triangle and occult religion. Truly something for everyone! Finally SIGAP produce PEGASUS Jan/Feb 1981 with several local and recent cases.

OBITUARY ... Ufology lost two of its British pioneers in late 1980. Capt. Ivor McKay and Dr John Cleary-Baker both passed away in November. after long lives which saw them contribute a great deal to the British UFO scene. Both will be missed.

ROLL OUT THE BARREL by Nigel Watson

Fear and trepidation eat into the soul of most ufologists when the media turns its attention to their subject. This fear is generated by memories of how the media has depicted ufology in the past. However, this has led to over sensitivity, all too well displayed by Jenny Randles' reviews of the book GENESIS in NUN and FSR.

There is not much one can offer in defence of GENESIS. It does contain a liberal sprinkling of explicit sex, the characters are the worst kind of cardboard cut-outs who use expletives as if there was no tomorrow (and in their case there isn't!), but can we take it as a serious threat to the 'respectable' image of ufology? Personally I find any book which states in large type on the rear cover "SEE YOUR WORLD TAKE ON NEW DIMENSIONS OF MIND-BLASTING TERROR!" will not be an academic textbook! Indeed UFOs are not even mentioned in the blurb, and it is obvious who it is aimed at. Nowhere in the book can I find any character resorting to "rape to elicit the truth from one unfortunate", as alleged by Ms Randles. This was particularly disappointing because I was looking forward to that bit! On P.412 Stanford, an investigator, does make love to a UFO witness but she seems quite willing to participate and it is a product of his desperation. If a person were to assume that real UFO investigators act in the same violent manner as this then they would be displaying a kind of lunacy which can only be cured by intense psychiatric treatment!

WA Harbinson does take trouble to discuss his hypothesis, that a secret inventor is responsible for most UFO sightings, in the light of known facts, and does list his sources. Whatever its validity this is certainly presented in superior fashion to that which is offered to the public by many so-called factual UFO books written by 'experts'. As ufologists we have nothing to be pleased about in the way we have presented our subject publically, and for that reason alone we should not condemn GENESIS until we put our own house in order. We have enough murky waters in our own barrel and should roll out that one first! GENESIS, WA Harbinson, Corgi, 1980.

UFO NETWORKS MEET TO FORGE NEW RELATIONSHIP

February 7 was an important day in British Ufology. Representatives of the 15 associated NUFON groups and the dozen southern groups in the MAUFOG alliance met in Birmingham, with central group UFOSIS (participants in both networks) the host.

It was a day for meeting each other, breaking down barriers (which some seemed to think existed) and setting the scene for a bright new tomorrow. With an alliance forged between the majority of all British UFO groups the prospects for the future are brighter than they have ever been in years.

Several concrete steps were taken at this first exploratory meeting:

- 1) Jenny Randles, as NUFON secretary, and a fluctuating MAUFOG representative, will begin a regular dialogue of ideas and information prior to and after each network meeting. Proposals for joint decisions at network meetings will thus be formulated.
- 2) NUFON agreed to throw open all its meetings and conferences to MAUFOG members. MAUFOG agreed to consider reciprocating this arrangement.
- 3) It was decided to continue these representative meetings and plan a further one later in 1981.
- 4) It was agreed to work towards the organisation of at least one, perhaps two, joint conferences per year devoted to specific themes of UFO research or UFO investigation. Coordination towards the first is to get underway soon.
- 5) Several ideas were discussed for the creation of a joint resources centre, pooling data and creating a reference library service with photocopy facilities for all Ufology. NUFOIS are to explore the development of this idea and report ideas back to both networks. MAUFOG are to visit the NUFOIS HQ where all NUFON data is stored, since this seems the present likely choice for a resources centre.
- 6) Les Hall (NUFON) and Marty Moffatt (SCUFORI) agreed to coordinate a date for a joint working party (with seven representatives from each network) to create a "Code of Ethics" for UFO Investigators ("Code of Practice" was the preferred term). A date of MARCH 28 and a venue of Nottingham was agreed. Suggestions will be referred back to each network for a full meeting discussion. Further joint working parties on specific topics will be planned in the future.
- 7) BUFORA and CONTACT will be kept informed, invited to send representatives and worked with wherever possible in such plans.

British Ufology stands now at an exciting new crossroads. Let us take the right path.

Just received is an excellent investigation report from FUFOR, on a CEI EM case from Wimboldsley, Cheshire, on September 21 1980. The very detailed study finds the case unidentified, at present, and affords a fine insight into FUFORs methodology. Whilst it is issued on a limited basis it will prove very useful to any investigator who is striving to upgrade his technique (as we all should be). I am not sure if copies will be available but I would imagine FUFOR will look kindly on any genuine inquiry....to... 2 Acer Avenue, Crewe, Cheshire.

This trend towards groups publishing detailed case studies (NUFOIS have just produced one on a Derbyshire case as mentioned on P.2) is encouraging. Whilst the compilation of basic data on all activity (via the newsletter), more detailed case studies (eg in FSR and INVESTIGATION) and the accessibility of original files via the HQ are all important I am sure this new step forward has something positive to offer and more groups might like to consider branching out in this way. By sending copies to media and scientific establishments the feedback potential justifies the cost of production.

----- LOW DEFINITION -----

Ref	Date	Time	Location	Investigator	Lev	Evaltn.
78-269	NOV 2	17.35	Burbage, Leics	HAPI/G.Hall	C	Insuff
14 yr old girl saw 4 green & 1 red LITS in SSE. Stationary at 45 deg for 30 seconds and then just faded out. Silvery glow surrounded them.						
79-148	AUG 21	21.45	Nuneaton, Wrwks	HAPI/G.Taylor	C	Ps A/cft
Young couple saw W LITS, 4x star size. Stationary then dimmed out. Became red/green and moved off fast SE, climbing from 30 deg to 60/70. Duration 1-1½ mins.						
8059	SEPT	22.00	Upton, Wirral	MIGAP/A.Bell	C	Spark
2 boys saw W flash behind spark-plug manufacturers. Inv. believes it may have been electric arc on third-rail railway line in this area.						
8060	SEP.12	20.15	Nuneaton, Wrks	HAPI/G.Taylor	C	Insuff
Couple in 20's saw three sets of 2 LITS (orange/green) at 30 deg NW. Moved slowly across sky and downwards over 15 mins period. Lost behind trees.						
8061	SEP 28	22.17	Bidston, Wirral	MIGAP/A.Bell	B	UFO
Inv and brother (schoolboy) saw dull red LITS with fuzzy edges, 2x star size. Moved NE-SW over Bidston Hill Met. Office. Silent and gliding. In view 10 secs. Many a/cft pass over heading to Liverpool Airport, but two seen shortly after and clearly identified and heard. Independent reports over the Mersey are being investigated by MIGAP.						
8062	OCT 5 (?)	20.30	Tranmere, Wirral	MIGAP/A.Bell	C	Star
Lecturer saw W LITS in NE over oil terminal. Over 5-10 min period kept disappearing & re-appearing. Stationary. Looked like star. Probably was star & clouds.						

MEDIUM DEFINITION

Ref	Date	Time	Location	Investigator	Lev	Evaltn.
7021	Winter	08.45	Wallasey, Wirral	MIGAP/A Bell	C	Insuff
Three men (then schoolchildren) saw Red ball moving along R. Mersey in SE direction. Emitting blue flame from rear every 10 seconds. Moved slowly and was in view 1½ minutes making no sound. Fuzzy. Halfpenny at arms length. As bright as moon.						

78-269

R

7021



78-268



G



78-268	Sep 12	23.30	Prestatyn, Clwyd	MUFORA/J Randles	B	Ps Beacon
2 teenagers (now aged 17) were at holiday camp 11 days after Llanercymedd case. (They remember the publicity over this). Out at sea saw rugby ball shaped object hovering V. low. Orange with black "portholes". Watched it for 15 mins then went to bed. Seemed boat sized but a long way out to sea. Every few seconds a blue flash would come from it. Next night in same position (gap between chalets) two objects exactly same were seen side by side. One boy fled as flash hit them this time. The other went closer but when flash came again he fled. It was not seen for the 2 other nights of the holiday. Witness now feels that blue flash was from a blue beacon on beach but does not know what the orange object was. Could it have been a boat or a buoy?						

8058 Jul 8 09.00 Kilsby, Northants HAPI/I. Law C Insuff
31 yr old salesman driving to work on the A5 saw White or silver very long cigar with a row of portholes along side. It streaked across his view, almost level with the ground, and was only seen for 2/3 seconds. Evaluation is quite impossible and no other witnesses are known. There was no sound and no effect on the car.

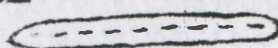
8101 Jan 2 Evening Stockport, Gtr M/Cr MUFORA/G. Manson C Insuff
A number of witnesses contacted the local press after a small item therein saying they had seen an upturned mushroom with various LITS on it. Moved slowly with a slight "whoosing" sound. Jodrell Bank had no sightings reported. Manchester Airport had many a/cft over the area at the times in question (they regularly fly low over Stockport). All witnesses were positive it was not an aircraft. No evaluation possible. It is hoped MAPIT might follow up the case locally.

8102 Jan 10 Elland, W. Yorks GW Birdsall B UFO/helicopter
Witness is 30 yr old full time cabaret artist. Having returned from show in M/Cr he took his dog for a walk at 03.09 and saw W object which hovered by sheer faced cliff, pouring light from the underside and lighting the grass. It moved slowly and hovered 3 times. On each movement it changed colour red-green-white, brilliantly fluorescent. As it moved it whistled/hummed. After nine minutes it climbed out of view over the cliff top and witness called police. Dog was not affected. Extensive checks were made by the investigator to try to trace a helicopter and his UFOIN file report details these efforts. Manchester Airport stated this was almost a radar blind-spot. But flying a helicopter in such terrain at night would be incredibly foolhardy. This seems to be yet another instance of the phantom helicopter which has plagued the region since 1973 (see David Rees's several articles on the theme in various magazines, inc CONTACT UKs AWARENESS).

8103 Jan 17 Hartford, Cheshire 19.40 MUFORA/J. Randles B Aircraft
Woman and man in car saw object approaching from SE and head NW, travelling slow, silent and quiet. Described as chandelier with multiple W LITS. Investigation showed it to be almost certainly an exaggeration of a well lighted quiet jet inbound for Liverpool Airport, 15 miles NW.

8104 Feb 9 Ince, Gtr Manchester 20.45 MUFORA/M. Sacks C Insuff
37 yr old welder with three others in car saw orange/white light growing to oval with flat base "the size of a house". Hovered for 30 seconds and then "shot off", decreasing in size until vanishing. Total duration 1½ minutes. No sound.

8058



8102



8103



8104



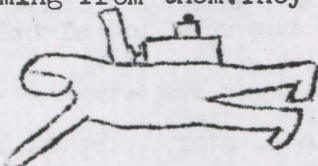
FLYING ENTITIES REPORTED FROM THE MIDLANDS UFOIN REPORT (NUFON Ref 76-171)
Investigation: Stephen Banks & Martin Keatman (PARASEARCH)

The case was reported because of a sighting by 31yr old mother Patricia K of Baddeley Green, Staffs. This had been in either 1967 or 1968 when out with her husband (then fiance). They had stopped at traffic lights at Wolstanton Marsh, at about midnight, after an evening's dancing. Suddenly, in the sky, just feet from her and hovering over the rooftops, was a huge domed disc. Very clear and distinct. It was a silver/blue/grey colour that she finds impossible to describe and had a banded series of portholes that emitted yellow light. It hovered for 5 seconds and then shot up out of sight. She called out in alarm but her fiance did not see it.

Now married they have an eight year old son. In Autumn 1976 he claims a remarkable sighting. It was 21.00 to 22.00 and he was quite awake when he heard an odd humming noise. Being inquisitive he climbed on the storage heater and looked out of the window. He saw two "objects" moving across his line of sight at a slow



"Walking pace". As they approached it was clear the whirring/humming noise was coming from them. They quickly resolved into two men, about four feet tall and dressed in white all over suits "like baby's wear" which extended to bootless feet. The face had a white crash-helmet on with a dark visor. They were flying, legs together and straight with arms at 90 degrees to the body in a swimming mode. They were very clearly seen, illuminated by the street lighting as they passed over. At closest approach they were within feet and several times the size of the full moon. They did not communicate with each other.



On their backs was a "machine", white like the rest of the suit. This was a rectangular box with a cube atop and a button on top of that. They were in view about 1 minute and the sound was still heard for a few seconds after that.

It would be tempting to dismiss the story as fantasy, coming from a very young child, but the boy's story is consistent and he has stuck to it without change for four years. It seems rather too simple for imagination (one colour, no UFO, no communication etc) and does tally with other "flying entity" stories from the records. He has never sought publicity, calls the figures "masters" (the local dialect for adults) and asks who they were... A good question! Combined with his mother's close encounter (which he was not told about) this is an intriguing case.

I cannot help thinking that the young child above might have mistaken two odd-looking helicopters flying low....Comments??? EDITOR.

ENTITY DISTURBS DOG IN NORTH WALES UFOIN REPORT (NUFON Ref 77-327)
Investigation: Andy Collins & Martin Keatman (PARASEARCH) 15pp M,P,S

Graham Philips (Psychologist) and Marion Sunderland also interviewed this witness, who is 22 yr old David B of Shotton, Clwyd.

On (it is believed) December 10 1977 at about midnight David was watching TV when "Mickey", the family labrador mongrel, began to frisk. Thinking it time for his late night walk David took him to the playing fields nearby. Suddenly the dog froze and David pulled the lead taught, but he would not budge. He stood immobile with hackles raised, staring at the fields. Following the animal's gaze David saw a huge



figure behind a fence. It was eight feet tall, just yards from them and dressed in a white "astronauts" suit. The suit seemed to be none-reflective and possibly self-luminous and seemed padded. At the front was what appeared a visor. The figure walked away stiffly and slowly with one arm raised, possibly carrying something. It was in view a retimed 62 seconds moving 32 metres in this time. David was terrified and fled home, leaving poor Mickey to fend for himself! David beat Mickey home, where he was greeted

by shocked parents, who gave him two cups of strong tea for his condition (he does not drink alcohol). Mickey spent the rest of the night cowering under the chair! He suffered no after effects except odd, inexplicable, urges to return to the site. He did return (by car) with his father next day. They saw no marks but David would not get out or even wind down the window. He requests total anonymity and has sought no publicity. All investigators were very impressed with this witness. He is familiar with all sorts of protective clothing (having worked at the Shotton steel plant before its closure...he is now a tyre fitter). This was unlike any of them. Counting the Rainford case (which has many similarities) some weeks later, the Gaynor Sunderland CE4 and the Ewloe CE3 (see INVESTIGATION 2) there have been four recent sightings of silver suited figures in a very small geographical area.

The witness claims several previous LITS observations, a number of "apparition" sightings in the house and several apparant out-of-the-body experiences. The family also had minor poltergeist incidents some years before. They claim the phone rings often with nobody at the other end and David claims to have been followed prior to the December 1977 sighting by two men dressed in black, with long coats, trilby hats and a briefcase. They have not been seen since the sighting.

There appears no reason to doubt the authenticity of this case or the sincerity of the witness. See Case 77-261 for unknown CE1, 30 mins earlier at Warrington.

There are hopeful signs that the British 'drought' of sightings has ended with the mini-flap of Oct/Nov and sightings for 1981 are well up on 1980. Is it of significance that the publishing trade has been recording a dramatic fall sales of books dealing with UFOs and the paranormal in 1980? Have the public been over-saturated? Is it merely public apathy against reporting or a genuine drop in the incidence of the phenomenon? Is there a link between public interest and sighting numbers - and if so what? Comments please.

REPORTS IN THIS ISSUE: 15 Insuff 7, Aircraft 2, Helicopter 1, star 1, spark 1, beacon/buoy 1 UFO 2 (13%)
